

The China Mail

Established February, 1845.



VOL XL No. 6508.

號八廿月五年四十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1884.

日四初月五年申甲

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GEORGE STREET & CO., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES HENDY & CO., 37, Walbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 156 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE:—GALLIEN & FRINIE, 38, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—THE DREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GOORAN & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally:—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.:—SAVILE & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HEINZEN & CO., Manila.

CHINA:—MACAO, MESSRS A. A. DE MELLO & CO., Sociedade, QUELHOU & CO., AMORY, WILSON, NICHOLS & CO., FORTDALE, HEDGE & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANZ, CRAWFORD & CO.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$5,000,000.
INSTALMENT RECEIVED ON.....\$2,074,744.75
NEW SHARES.....\$7,074,744.75
RESERVE FUND.....\$2,500,000.
INSTALMENT OF PREVIOUSLY ISSUED OR NEW SHARES.....\$1,563,361.66
\$4,663,361.66

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman:—A. P. McEWEN, Esq.
Deputy Chairman:—Hon. F. D. SASSOON.
C. D. BOTTOMLEY, M. GROTE, Esq.
H. L. DALMTRY, Hon. W. KENTWICK, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq. M. E. SASSOON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
MANAGER:—EDWARD CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS:—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:—

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

6 " 4 per cent.

12 " 6 per cent.

LOCAL BANK DISCOUNTS.
Credits granted on approved Travellers' cheques, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Deposits granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, April 2, 1884. 583

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of

T. M. WILLIAM HENRY HARTON,

JUNIOR, in our Firm ceased on the 30th April, 1884.

MR. GERALD SLADE and MR. ALEXANDER MCNAUL are this day Admitted PARTNERS in our Firm:

GILMAN & CO.

Hongkong and Foochow,

1st May, 1884. 738

Intimations.

D. K. GRIFFITH
Has Opened His
NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO,
No. 1, Duddell Street,
In rear of the Chartered Bank of India,
Australia and China.

THE New RAPID DAY PLATES, he is now working on, are ten times quicker than the old, process and make Portraits of Children easy and certain to secure.

The Studio is open daily, and Portraits are taken in any weather at Moderate Charges, while every care is taken to procure permanent prints.

NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG AND THE COAST PORTS ALWAYS READY.

Hongkong, May 24, 1884. 805

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

An INTEREST BONUS of 15 % upon Contributions for the Year 1883 has this Day been declared.

WARRANTS may be had on application at the above Office on and after the 10th Proximo.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Agents.

Hongkong, April 26, 1884. 723

Intimations.

WILLIAM DOLAN,
HAIL-MAKER & SHIP-CHANDLER,
22, PEAK CENTRAL.

COTTON DUCKS, HEMP CANVAS,
MANILA ROPE, AMERICAN OAKUM, LIFE BOATS,
CORK JACKETS, &c., &c.

Hongkong, May 1, 1882. 256

ROBERT SIM & CO.'S PATENT ANTI-FOULING COMPOSITION

as supplied to

Her Majesty's Ships; The P. & O. S. N. Co.;

The Douglas Steamship Company;

Set Agent, China, Japan, and Manila;

EDWARD GEORGE.

Hongkong, January 31, 1884. 188

Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

SIGNORA LOUIZA MARGHERETTI
(late PRIMA DONNA of Signor BERGAMASCHI'S ITALIAN OPERA TROUPE)
will give a

SECOND and LAST GRAND CONCERT

ON TUESDAY EVENING,

the 3rd June, 1884.

Particulars will duly appear in the Programmes.

Prices of Admission:

Dress Circle and Stalls, \$2.

Unreserved Seats, \$1.

Tickets can be obtained and Seats booked at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, and at the Hall of the Night of the Concert.

Hongkong, May 27, 1884. 884

Intimations.

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

1. The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2. The Assets of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will form a direct security for the repayment of sums deposited in the above Bank.

3. Sums less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$1,500 in any one year.

4. Deposits may be on behalf of relatives, of trusts, &c., in addition to the depositor's own account.

5. Persons desirous of saving sums less than a dollar may do so by affixing ten cent stamps to a form to be obtained at the Bank or at the Post Office, when the form is presented with ten clean sheets the depositor will be credited one dollar.

6. Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. pure annual interest.

7. Deposits may be forwarded from the Posts by means of clean Hongkong Postage Stamps of any value.

8. Interest at the rate of 3% per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

9. Each Depositor will be furnished with a book in which his deposits will be registered with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

10. Books containing Pass-Books, Registered Letters containing Stamps or other Remittances, and generally correspondence as to the business of the Bank will, if marked On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business, be forwarded free of Postage or Registration Free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

11. Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the person attending the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

12. All documents connected with the business of the Savings' Bank are exempt from stamp duty.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, April 25, 1884. 715

Intimations.

WITH Reference to the above, BUSINESS will be commenced on the 1st May, 1884.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, April 25, 1884. 715

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE.

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NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG AND THE COAST PORTS ALWAYS READY.

Hongkong, May 24, 1884. 805

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

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JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Agents.

Hongkong, April 26, 1884. 723

Intimations.

WILLIAM DOLAN,
HAIL-MAKER & SHIP-CHANDLER,
22, PEAK CENTRAL.

COTTON DUCKS, HEMP CANVAS,
MANILA ROPE, AMERICAN OAKUM, LIFE BOATS,
CORK JACKETS, &c., &c.

Hongkong, May 1, 1882. 256

ROBERT SIM & CO.'S PATENT ANTI-FOULING COMPOSITION

as supplied to

Her Majesty's Ships; The P. & O. S. N. Co.;

The Douglas Steamship Company;

Set Agent, China, Japan, and Manila;

EDWARD GEORGE.

Hongkong, January 31, 1884. 188

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

OUTFITTING DEPARTMENT.

A NEW SUPPLY JUST TO HAND OF SPRING HOSIERY.

Particulars will duly appear in the Programmes.

Prices of Admission:

Dress Circle and Stalls, \$2.

Unreserved Seats, \$1.

Tickets can be obtained and Seats booked at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, and at the Hall of the Night of the Concert.

Hongkong, May 27, 1884. 884

To Let.

TO LET, FURNISHED.

No. 10, SEVEN TERRACE.

Apply to

MANAGER,

China Mail Office.

Hongkong, April 15, 1884. 656

TO BE LET.

No. 2, DOUGLAS VILLAS, CAINE ROAD.

Also,

No. 6, UPPER MOQUE TERRACE.

Possession from 1st May.

Apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.

Hongkong, April 15, 1884. 606

TO LET.

No. 2, DOUGLAS VILLAS, CAINE ROAD.

For Particulars, apply to

SIEMSEN & CO.

<p

THE CHINA MAIL.

[No. 6503.] — MAY 28, 1884.

For Sale.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.
No. 63, Queen's Road East,
(OPPOSITE THE COMMISARIAT),
ARE NOW LANDING
FROM AMERICA.

CALIFORNIA
RACKER
COMPANY'S BISCUITS in 5 lb
tins, and loose.
Soda BISCUITS.
Assorted BISCUITS.

Small HOMINY.

Cracked WHEAT.

OATMEAL.

CORNMEAL.

TOPCOAN BUTTER.
Apple BUTTER.
Eastern and California CHEESE.
CODFISH, Boned.
Crimo HAMS and BACON.
Eagle Brand Condensed MILK.
Family BEEF in 25 lb. bags.
Pou Ideal SALMON in 5 lb cans.
Dutting's Dessert FRUITS in 2 lb. cans.
Assorted Canned VEGETABLES.
Potted SAUSAGE and Sausage

MEDALS.
Stuffed PEPPERS.
Assorted SOUPS.

Richardson's & Robins' Celebrated Potted MEATS.

Lunch HAM.
Lamb's TONGUES.
Olam CHOWDER.
French OREGON SALMON.
Dried APPLES.
TOMATOES.
SUGGOTASH.
Maple SYRUP.
Golden SYRUP.
LOBSTERS.
OYSTERS.
HONEY.
Assorted JELLIES.
Green CORN.

FAIRBANKS' SCALES.

400 lb. Capacity.

500 lb. "

600 lb. "

1,200 lb. "

CORN BROOMS.
OFFICE HIGH CHAIRS.
AXES and HATCHETS.

AGATE IRON WARE.
WAFFLE IRONS.
SMOOTHING IRONS.

PAINTS AND OILS.
TALLOW and TAR.
VARNISHES.

DEVOE'S NONPARIEL
BRILLIANT
KEROSINE OIL,
150° test.

Ex late Arrivals from ENGLAND.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF STORES,
including:

CHRISTMAS CAKES.
PLUM PUDDINGS.
MINCEMEAT.
ALMONDS and RAISINS.

Crystallized FRUITS.
TESSONNEAU'S DESSERT FRUITS.
Pudding RAISINS.

Lante CURRANTS.

Fine YORK HAMS.
PICNIC TONGUES.
PATE DE FOIE GRAS.
SAVORY PATES.

FRENCH PLUMS.
BRAWN.
INFANTS' FOOD.
CORN FLOUR.

SPARTAN
COOKING STOVES.

HITCHCOCK HOUSE LAMP.
PERFECTION STUDENT LAMP.

CLARET.
CHATEAU MARGAUX.
CHATEAU LA TOUR, pints & quarts.

REES GRAVES, "

BREAKFAST CLARET, "

SHERRIES & PORT—
SACCONE'S MANZANILLA & AMON-

TILLADO.

SACCONE'S OLD INVALID PORT
(1848).
HUNT'S PORT.

BRANDY, WHISKY, LIQUEURS, &c.—
1 & 3 year HENNESSY'S BRANDY.
BROU DU BOUC & Co.'s BRANDY.
FINE OLD BOURBON WHISKY.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.

ROYAL GLENDEAN WHISKY.
BOODR'S OLD TOM.

E. & J. BURKE'S IRISH WHISKY.
ROSE'S LIME JUICE CORDIAL.

NOILLY PRAT & Co.'s VERMOUTH.

CRABBIE'S GINGER BRANDY.

EASTERN CIDER.

CHARTRUSE.

MARASCHINO.
CURACAO.

ANGOSTURA, BORÉS and ORANGE BITTERS.
&c., &c., &c.

—
SPECIALTY SELECTED CIGARES.

Fine New Season's CUMSHAW TEA, in 5 catty Boxes.

BREAKFAST CONGOU @ 25 cents p. lb.

MILNER'S PATENT FIRE-PROOF SAFES, CASH and PAPER BOXES, at Manufacturer's Prices

Hongkong, December 1, 1883. 1043

Intimations.

Chinese Imperial Government Eight Per Cent. Loan of 1881.
SECOND DRAWING.

NUMBERS OF BONDS DRAWN.

1096 Bonds Nos.—

7 884 1764 2644 3522 4403 5232 6163 7042 7921

15 889 1769 2653 3532 4409 5291 6172 7052 7931

24 903 1781* 2664 3538 4420 5290 6182 7059 7940

28 908 1788 2666 3531 4429 5312 6189 7067 7949

39 917 1796 2675 3535 4434 5315 6197 7076 7956

47 926 1808 2683 3537 4443 5325 6205 7084 7963

54 933 1811 2693 3537 4454 5332 6213 7092 7973

64 939 1819 2702 3539 4461 5342 6223 7101 7980

69 948 1829 2710 3538 4469 5350 6229 7103 7987

76 957 1833 2715 3530 4476 5353 6237 7114 7998

86 966 1841 2726 3503 4483 5362 6249 7126 8005

95 971 1849 2733 3610 4493 5371 6252 7133 8013

101 980 1860 2738 3620 4500 5379 6262 7137 8021

112 989 1866 2749 3628 4507 5387 6269 7148 8029

118 997 1875 2757 3635 4518 5399 6275 7156 8036

124 1002 1886 2763 3643 4524 5403 6283 7163 8046

132 1013 1890 2770 3650 4534 5415 6295 7172 8052

140 1021 1899 2781 3658 4542 5426 6300 7181 8062

149 1030 1906 2788 3669 4549 5437 6308 7188 8069

157 1040* 1916 2796 3676 4556 5435 6314 7195 8075

165 1047 1923 2805 3682 4564 5443 6324 7204 8086

171 1054 1932 2814 3682 4573 5452 6333 7209 8095

181 1064 1938 2819 3700 4580 5460 6342 7219 8102

189 1069 1946 2827 3703 4588 5467 6348 7232 8110

193 1074 1957 2830 3717 4597 5479 6350 7237 8117

201 1087 1961* 2844 3728* 4606 5485 6367 7245 8125

211 1093 1971 2850 3733 4609 5492 6372 7254 8136

218 1099 1979 2858 3741 4619 5500 6377 7259 8139

231 1109 1987 2871 3747 4628 5507 6391 7268 8149

233 1114 1993 2875 3755 4638 5515 6394 7276 8156

245 1201 2001 2882 3762 4646 5525 6407 7282 8161

253 1214 2010 2894 3770 4653 5533 6413 7292 8173

261 1214 2026 2908 3780 4670 5546 6431 7307 8189

277 1256 2035 2917 3799 4678 5554 6435 7314 8197

285 1264 2048 2925 3802 4686 5564 6444 7327 8204

292 1272 2054 2933 3805 4694 5573 6456 7333 8215

290 1280 2058 2942 3818 4703 5581 6461 7340 8220

305 1285 2066 2945 3827 4709 5585 6468 7348 8231

318 1297* 2078 2954 3836 4719 5593 6478 7354 8237

328 1306 2087 2963 3843 4724 5602 6489 7361 8245

335 1290 2096 2974 3851 4733 5612 6499 7371 8252

341 1319 2102 2980 3859 4743 5624 6498 7379 8262

347 1229 2109 2989 3869 4750 5626 6506 7387 8269

357 1240 2120 2996 3876 4756 5639 6514 7395 8276

368 1247 2125 3004 3884 4765 5644 6525 7404 8281

375 1251 2130 3010 3893 4774 5651 6536 7410 8287

379 1261 2140 3022 3898 4784 5659 6537 7421 8299

385 1271 2148 3028 3912 4796 5666 6548 7420 8309

396 1277 2156 3037 3916 4797 5677 6557 7427 8316

406 1291 2165 3045 3926 4802 5681 6562 7432 8323

410 1303 2179 3061 3943 4819 5689 6570 7461 8341

426 1312 2186 3070 3948 4830 5698 6578 7467 8351

433 1317 2198 3077 3957 4836 5714 6594 7473 8357

446 1322 2204 3086 3963 4843 5724 6607 7483 8361

456 1331 2211 3095 3971 4852 5734 6612 7491 8371

464 1341 2219 3104 3980 4861 5741 6620 7500 8376

470 1350 2227 3110 3986 4872 5750 6628 7508 8389

477 1358 2235 3120 3997 4873 5757 6635 7515 8397

488 1363 2241 3124 4006 4884 5

THE CHINA MAIL.

banks. The present able General Agents then reorganized a new Company to be under their management. After this there was a long period of rest from anxiety, for the markets that were opened commenced to fix the resources of the Refinery, and an extension became necessary. There was uninterrupted success for a number of years. The founder of the original enterprise having severed his connection with it, went to England and secured a valuable patent, known as the 'Weinrich,' the result being that a second refinery was established by Mr. Mico Re-gro Smith. It was not long, however, before this new enterprise was purchased by its powerful rival, so that the latter again enjoyed a monopoly, and brought up the producing power of the Company to 2,500 piculs per day, at which we believe it now stands.

In January, 1883, the Lee Yuen Sugar Company was founded with two thousand capital. The works of this Company were constructed to turn out forty tons of refined sugar daily, or say 672 piculs. This out-turn was shortly increased to 800 piculs, and we hear that additional machinery is now on the way out for the Company that will further increase its out-turn. At the beginning of the year, another sugar refining works, of gigantic proportions, commenced operations at Quarry Bay. The plant of this undertaking and that of the Lee Yuen Sugar Company are almost identical in construction, and it may be assumed that the plant of each factory is as near perfection as it is possible to bring it; even at the present time. The producing power of the three refineries now in existence here is about as follows:—

China Sugar Refining Co., 2,500 piculs
Lee Yuen Sugar Refining Co., 800
Quarry Bay Refinery 1,600

Total, 4,900 piculs

This, we believe, is what the Refineries are capable of turning out daily with their existing machinery. Of course it will be understood there is plenty of room for additions to the plant at the Refineries, especially the new ones, and that such additions would enable a corresponding increase of the out-turn to be made. The Lee Yuen is greatly in want of a water supply, but this disadvantage is not likely to be removed until the new Water-works are completed.

Probably the producing power of these Refineries will be fully equal to the demand for many years to come, as beyond certain limits the markets are supplied by local establishments, and this is getting to be especially the case in the Australian colonies. Cheap labour and other advantages enjoyed here, however, ought to place our sugar industry in a good position for competing in distant markets. There is also good reason for thinking that the markets in the Far East will go on improving. China alone should be able to consume all the sugar refined in Hongkong, but, before this result can be attained, the Chinese will have to be civilized up to the consumption of refined sugar. Locally the three Refineries provide employment for a few Europeans and a large number of natives; they advance our shipping interests, and they provide valuable banking business.

TELEGRAMS.

London, 27th May, 1884.

THE D E R B Y.

LATEST SETTING.

Queen O' Scots 3 a 2
Adelaide Fly 5 a 1
Talisman 5 a 1
St. Medan 5 a 1
St. Gathon 3 a 1
Richmond 11 a 1

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The next FERNS MAIL, for the M. M. Co.'s S. S. *Sophomore*, which left Cape St. James for this port on the 27th inst. at 8 a.m., may be expected to arrive here on or about Friday morning, the 30th instant.

The S. S. *Athenae* left Singapore for this port on the 24th instant.

The S. S. *Hercules* left Singapore on the 26th instant for this port.

The S. S. *Victoria*, from Antwerp, left Singapore on the 26th inst. for this port.

The Union Line steamer *Principia* left Singapore on the 26th instant for this port.

The S. S. *Glenary* left Singapore for this port on the 27th inst.

The S. S. *Leviator* left Singapore for this port on the 27th inst.

The S. S. Co.'s steamer *Prince*, from Liverpool, left Singapore for this port on the 27th inst.

DOC. MOVEMENTS.—
The *Catalina* left Kowloon Dock to-day.

The U. S. gunboat *Faro*, Commander G. D. B. Gilford, will leave here to-morrow for Canton, to relieve the U. S. gunboat *Monocacy*, Commander F. J. Higgins.

It is expected that H. B. M.'s sloop *Dart*, Commander Lawrence Ching, will leave the harbour on the 3rd proximo for target practice. The practice completed she will proceed to Canton where there is at present no British man-of-war.

The refitting and improvements which we stated a short time ago were to be made on H. B. M.'s corvette *Champion*, have been nearly effected; and it is expected that she will leave the harbour for the North about the 15th of next month.

With reference to the statement made in our paragraph of Monday last that the band of Egyptian refugees now in the Colony arrived by the S. S. *Orion*, Messrs. Molther & Co. write to us to the effect that the commander of that vessel states that the men did not come to the Colony in the *Orion*. We appear to have been misinformed in the matter.

We note the arrival of a new German steamer to-day the *Signal*, 394 tons, Captain Neiderer, from Hamburg. After discharging her cargo, the *Signal* will, we hope, load for Newchwang, and it is possible that she may afterwards obtain a charter and run on one of the local lines.

In the list of passengers booked for Hongkong by the P. & O. steamship *Deacon*, which left London May 7th appear the names of Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Cattell, Lieutenant-Colonel Cattell belongs to the Army Pay Department and will receive Lieut.-Colonel A. S. Murray as District Paymaster and Agent for the Lords Commissioners of H. M. Treasury.

We learn that Messrs. Balfour and Wilson, who, with three other gentlemen, whose names we do not know, purchased the wreck of the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company's steamer *Rajah-nalanda*, lost on a reef in the Gulf of Siam, are making very satisfactory progress towards lifting the vessel. Two compartments have been made perfectly watertight, and these engaged on the work expect to have the vessel afloat in one month from the present time. She will then probably be towed to Bangkok to be repaired. She has sustained little or no damage beyond the large hole made in her hull when she went ashore.

The strange publication known as the *War Cry*, and recognised as the official gazette of General Booth's Salvation Army, is stated to be published in English, French, Swedish, and several other languages. The army sent out last year 250,000,000 copies, and £17,000 worth of musical instruments, uniforms, and badges.

The steamer *Arabie*, which arrived at San Francisco on the 19th April, started from Hongkong with 600 Chinese, with the expectation of landing the greater part of them at Honolulu. Owing to the new regulations of the Hawaiian Government prohibiting the landing of foreign vessels, the Chinese from any vessel, considerable difficulty was experienced at Honolulu, and only about 300 were landed. The remainder were taken to San Francisco, and about 200 shipped on the steamer Queen of the Pacific to Victoria, British Columbia. The remainder will probably try to land at San Francisco if they can work through the meshes of the Custom House and United States Courts.

With regard to the future of Sebastopol, a home paper remarks that there Russia will possess in two or three years' time a fully-grown town with a subsidised dockyard capable of turning out ironclads, as well, together with a large stone dock capable of containing the largest ship of war. Events, it is thought, all point to the fact that Turkish war is likely in the Black Sea, which contributed materially to prolonging the last struggle, is rapidly dying away, and that the long power will be completely to Russia, who, with her mighty strength at Batoum, her railway to Karak, also to be finished in two or three years' time—and her dominant attitude in the Balkans, may be expected to adopt a very much more arrogant attitude in regard to Turkish affairs than she is content to do to-day.

The suggestion of the Victorian Premier that some acknowledgment of the services rendered, on February 11, by the s.s. *Pathan* to the Victorian torpedo boat *Chidder*, now on her way out to the colony, should be made, has been acted upon. It will be remembered that Lieutenant Jernam, who is in command of the *Chidder*, found himself without coal when nearing the Straits of Gibraltar, and that the captain of the *Pathan* towed the vessel through the Straits. The following letter has been addressed by the Minister of Defence to Captain Rowley, of the *Pathan*, which is as follows:—Sir, I have to inform you that I am in receipt of a communication from Lieutenant Jernam, the officer in command of the Victorian torpedo boat *Chidder*, in which he expresses warmly the valuable assistance you so readily granted him when his vessel was short of coal outside the Straits of Gibraltar. Fearing that the Government are deeply indebted to you, I, on their behalf, have much pleasure in conveying to you the expression of their sincere thanks for the services rendered. I have the honour, &c., F. T. Sargent.

The following telegram appears in a San Francisco paper:—

New York, April 26th.—A cable special from London of April 25th says: A scandalous charge, in which the Salvation Army is mixed up with the General Post-office, is to-day agitating civil service circles throughout London. The alleged culprit is Steven Arthur Blackwood, Secretary to the Post office, and as far as administrative details are concerned, principally head of the department. The charges against Mr. Blackwood are to be in a fatalistic alibi of the Salvation Army and uses his official position and commands to reward and punishment to dragoon the clerks and telegraph operators of the Post office departments, male and female, into the ranks of the Salvation Army.

Secretary Blackwood is a bright and shining light in the "army" and is known as a powerful exertor at the Sunday evangelistic meetings in the little Bethels throughout the city. It is charged that he has brought the Salvation Army's tactics into his department to the extent of holding prayer meetings during business hours in the General Post office building under the auspices of the "Civil Service Prayer Union" which he has established, and which appears to have for its special object bringing converted members of the civil service, especially among post office employees. The latter complain of this as adding to their illegal complaints in the civil service and results in an intolerable amount of cant and hypocrisy.

The cleric says faithful and efficient men and women are, without any request or knowledge on their parts, publicly prayed for by name in these midday conventicles, and their names are put down, so that they call the "Blackwood black list." As long as their names are on this list they are subjected to espionage and frequently discharged or retarded from promotion to make way for hypocrites, who have secured favor by joining the praying band. The only way to get one's name off this black list is

to make a sort of confession of faith to Blackwood, after which the official path is made wonderfully smooth for the "converts." This results, according to the clerks, in many cases of a pretense of piety to Blackwood and in advancement, not of the best civil servants, but of the most accomplished toadies and hypocrites. These grievances have at last reached the ears of Parliament, and at an early date next week the Government is to be questioned by one of the City members as to the propriety of Secretary Blackwood's conduct and the legality of his alleged evasions of the civil service rules.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PRESENT FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

To the Editor of THE CHINA MAIL.

Sir, It is, I find, generally agreed that the crisis is now being passed through in Hongkong of a more serious nature in extent than any hitherto experienced in this busy centre of commerce. Believing that any legitimate suggestion on the part of the Magistrate might be of service, I would like to call your attention to the following points:

1. That the *Blackwood* case is a very serious one, and that the accused is in default to export from the Mixed Court of payment of \$1,000, which he had tried to extort from the black-hoops.

The Magistrate contended that the runner was perfectly justified under Rule No. 5 in executing warrant of this nature, without any other authority or otherwise. Further that the Municipal police had no right to arrest his runner, and keep him in goal all night, when he, the Magistrate, had applied over night for his release.

It was agreed that the first point should be referred by the Municipal Council to the Consular Advisor. In regard to the second, the Advisor explained to Mr. Hunter that it was past 11 o'clock when he, the Magistrate, had sent the Police Station, and that if there had been any irregularity or delay in handing over the man, such was quite unintentional on the part of the police.

The Magistrate accepted this explanation, but declined to punish the accused on the ground that the detective ought to be punished for not reporting to the police authorities the fact that the accused was a Mixed Court runner, and thus obtaining his immediate release.

Mr. Giles urged upon his Worship that the man had been illegally engaged in attempting to extort money, and ought to be punished accordingly.

The Magistrate replied that the accused was one of his officers, and, that, but for his carelessness, he should use his own discretion in dealing with him privately.

Mr. Giles objected to this proceeding, and declined to sign the charge-sheet, putting a note on record to that effect.

On the hearing of the case, it was shown that accused was in possession of half-a-dozen duly stamped warrants, issued under the Royal Court seal, one being for the arrest of the three wench in question; but none of them were countersigned by the Senior Counsel. It was further proved that he had arrested the three women and handed them over to the Mixed Court, in default of payment of \$1,000, which he had tried to extort from the black-hoops.

The Magistrate refused to state what had been sent to Egypt's suggestion in regard to the relief of Birber, which he said, was doubtless in danger. Khartoum is in no danger, either from mutiny or any other force. The Government fully recognized the obligation they were under for the safety of Gordon, and would put themselves in a position to render all needful assistance.

Edmund Fitzmaurice said that

Nisar was refused to retain office unless

Birber was freed. He stated that no

instructions had been sent to Baker Pasha at Shatin regarding the treatment of slaves.

London, April 24th.—In the House of Commons Gladstone refused to state what had been sent to Egypt's suggestion in regard to the relief of Birber, which he said, was doubtless in danger. Khartoum is in no danger, either from mutiny or any other force. The Government fully recognized the obligation they were under for the safety of Gordon, and would put themselves in a position to render all needful assistance.

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